



Kimberly M. MacKay  
Commandant

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Dear Residents and Families –

It is with mixed emotions that we are writing to you today.

As you are aware, there has been a significant increase in COVID-19 in our state and nation in the past few weeks. The substantial level of community transmission in all counties in New Hampshire continues. Daily monitoring of residents and weekly testing of staff have been ongoing. While we continue to follow infection prevention and control procedures, unfortunately, this morning a resident exhibited some possible symptoms. We then conducted rapid COVID tests on all residents in that neighborhood; these tests rendered six positive test results. These residents have been quarantined and families have been notified. Public Health was notified and they have recommended an extensive resident testing program within our facility to ensure that COVID has not gone beyond the initial six positives. We concur with the testing schedule and will implement it. Currently, we have two positive staff members from last week's testing. They are quarantined at home.

To minimize potential exposure, entertainers and trips have been put on hold while recreation programs are being held on individual resident neighborhoods. Visits and social excursions have been paused. We will write you again when these activities resume.

On a positive note, we are pleased to announce that Kimberly “Kim” MacKay has just become the 11<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the New Hampshire Veterans Home. Kim comes to us with 15 years of state service as well as long-term care and administrative experience from the Glenclyff Home, the State's only other long-term care facility.

We, Peggy and Kim, will be working in tandem this month to ensure a smooth transition for our veterans, staff, family members, volunteers, veteran service organizations and community members. Kim is honored to be here serving our veterans and looks forward to meeting everyone. Peggy will miss being here daily after her last day as an employee on March 4<sup>th</sup>, but looks forward to returning as a volunteer to stay connected with our veterans and families.

We hope you are safe and well.

Sincerely,

Kimberly M. MacKay  
Commandant

Margaret D. LaBrecque  
Past Commandant